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3 IDS
D. Townsend
06/18/02
PATENT
Docket No. 1650-003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

RYDER

Entitled: "CONTAINMENT ASSEMBLY"

Serial No. 10/029,537

Filed: December 21, 2001

)
)
) Group Art Unit: 3652
)
) Examiner: Unknown

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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JUN 13 2002
GROUP 3600

May 31, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c) to bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. Upon information and belief, this IDS is being filed before the mailing date of either a final office action or a notice of allowance.

A Certification is attached in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication (enclosed) from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application dated May 16, 2002, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

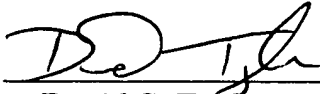
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Early and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement, the Form PTO-1449, and the cited documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on May 31, 2002 with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231.

